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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/689,354

Examiner

Kenneth E. Peterson

Applicant(s)

OKANIWA, HISAO

Art Unit

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the amendment received 22 Feb 07.

2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3 and 5-10.

3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:

1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached  
1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

(b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application

2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment

4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

Art Unit: 3724

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ron Snider on 26 March 07.

The application has been amended as follows:

On line 8 of claim 1, "a" has been changed to –an upright--.

On line 9 of claim 1, "and facing" has been deleted.

On line 10 of claim 1, "at least one of the bristles and upright" has been changed to –an associated bristle--.

On line 12 of claim 1, "at least one" has been changed to –associated--.

At the end of claim 1, after "therefrom", the following has been inserted – such that hair forcibly bundled between said cutting edge and said associated bristle is cut--.

Claims 2,11-25 have been cancelled since they are largely redundant or nonelected.

On line 2 of claim 7, "bristles are" has been changed to –said associated bristle are--.

On line 4 of claim 7, "bristles" has been changed to –said associated bristle--.

On line 2 of claim 8, "bristles" has been changed to –associated bristle--.

On lines 2-6 of claim 10, the phrase "for a hair brush in which bristles are set upright in a cutting unit base, a cutter provided with a cutting edge is set upright nearby

the bristles, and the cutting edge of the cutter is disposed so as to face the bristles" has been changed to --holds said cutting blade and said associated bristle and--.

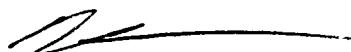
2. Made of record but not making Applicant's invention obvious are three references showing brushes with blades.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth E. Peterson whose telephone number is 571-272-4512. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur, 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on 571-272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

kp



KENNETH E. PETERSON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER